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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NEW YORK METRO-AREA RESIDENTS INDICTED FOR
FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH TOEFL/GMAT EXAMS**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that today a federal grand jury indicted Ping Shen, a/k/a "Peter Shen," "Yifu Cheng," age 56; Lu Xu, age 34; Zhigang Cao, age 38; Qian Wang, age 26; Feng Wang a/k/a "Little David," age 26; all from New York, New York; and Gang Yang, age 36, of South Plainsfield, New Jersey for crimes committed in connection with a scheme to defraud Thomson Prometric (Prometric), located in Baltimore, Maryland, Educational Testing Service (ETS), and Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC).

The one-count indictment charges the defendants with conspiring to commit mail and wire fraud by obtaining access to and using GMAC's and ETS's trademarked materials, copyrighted materials, and services; by obtaining GMAC's and ETS's official score report; and by obtaining the benefit of and undermining PROMETRIC, GMAC and ETS's goodwill and the value of its trademark and copyright. PROMETRIC was under contract by ETS to deliver and provide on-site security for the Test of English as a Foreign Language, commonly known as the TOEFL exam, and the Graduate Management Admissions Test, commonly known as the GMAT exam. The defendants

are charged with conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud by causing an imposter to appear at the test site and falsely identify himself as the student who had registered to take the exam. The indictment alleges that the imposter, posing as the student, would then sign a confidentiality statement, have his photo taken at the test site, sit for the exam, and direct that the exam results be mailed to locations controlled by one of the defendants or a designee. The indictment further alleges that once the exam was processed, the results were, as previously directed, mailed to a location controlled by one of the defendants or a designee in New York or New Jersey. It is allegedly part of the scheme that one of the defendants or a designee substituted the real student's photograph for the imposter's photograph, and the fraudulent exam results were then sent to schools requiring the real student's exam.

The indictment alleges that approximately 590 tests were taken in this manner as part of the fraudulent scheme.

Each defendant faces a maximum penalty of 5 years incarceration and a \$250,000 fine.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

The criminal charges in this indictment are the result of a joint investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Postal Inspection Service and the United States Attorney's Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bonnie S. Greenberg